

REMARKS**I. Amendments to Specification and Addition of New Claims**

Applicants have filed herewith a Sequence Listing, which complies with Patent Office rules in effect at the time of the original filing. A computer-readable copy of the Sequence Listing is also enclosed herewith. The above amendment involving the Sequence Listing is made to bring the disclosure of particular nucleic acid and amino acid sequences in line with 37 C.F.R. §1.821(c).

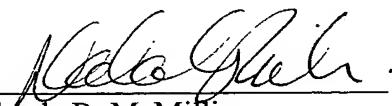
Also by the foregoing amendment, the Applicants have updated and corrected the priority claim of the present continuing application. In addition, there are amendments to various individual pages of the specification, which amendments either correct typographical errors or are necessitated by the addition of the Sequence Listing enclosed herewith. No new matter has been introduced by the amendments to the specification.

Applicants also present an amendment adding new claims 71-90 directed to a method of stimulating growth of stromal cells with stem cell factor (SCF) polypeptides. Support for the methods claims 71-90 is found throughout the specification as originally filed, and in canceled claims 1-70. The applicants have introduced no new matter by this amendment, and the new claims require no new search. Applicants request that claims 1-70 be cancelled. Therefore, the claims presented for consideration by the Examiner in the instant application upon entry of the foregoing amendment are claims 71-90. The applicants have introduced no new matter by this amendment.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this submission, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 16, 2003

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